

have filed a resolution for the consideration of my colleagues on this issue. I speak about it today at some length because I believe this is an important matter for the American people to know about and to have a chance to speak out on.

I believe the American people—certainly the people in Texas—do not want their courts to make political decisions. They want their courts to follow and apply the law as written. I believe the American people do not want their courts to follow the precedents of foreign courts. They want their courts to follow U.S. laws and U.S. precedents. The American people do not want their laws controlled by foreign governments. They want their laws controlled by the American Government, which serves the American people. The American people do not want to see American law and American policy outsourced to foreign governments and foreign courts.

So I have submitted a resolution to give this body the opportunity to state for the record that this trend in our courts is wrong and that American law should never be reversed or rejected simply because a foreign government or a foreign court may disagree with it. This resolution is nearly identical to one that has been introduced by my colleague in the House, Congressman TOM FEENEY. I applaud his leadership and efforts in this area, and I hope both the House and Senate will come together and follow the footsteps of our Founding Fathers, to once again defend our rights as Americans to dictate the policies of our Government—informed but never dictated by the preferences of any foreign government or tribunal.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Minnesota.

HONORING POPE JOHN PAUL II

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to pay my respects to a simple, humble man who achieved historic greatness—Pope John Paul II. The Archbishop of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Harry Flynn, had a quote the other day. I was home this weekend with my wife and was looking over remarks made about John Paul II. The Archbishop said this:

He will be known, I firmly believe, as John Paul the Great in the long history of the church. This will be because of his profound writings and for his unceasing focus on the dignity of each and every human being and the paramount value of human life. To my mind, his election to the pontificate was made possible by the providence of God and demonstrates God's love for his church.

I agree with my friend Archbishop Flynn that John Paul II will be known in history as John Paul the Great.

The human family is plagued by many artificial divisions. Once in a great while, a figure emerges whose

ideas and example resonate across all boundaries and brings us together. John Paul II was such a person.

As a Jew, I feel a deep sense of personal loss because the person I looked to for leadership and who I deeply and profoundly respected has passed on. I have the image of John Paul II at the western wall in Jerusalem, the Wailing Wall it has been called, the last remains of the outer part of the second temple, perhaps one of the holiest spots in the Jewish faith. I believe, if my recollection of Jewish tradition is correct, as you walk along the western wall, about 100 yards inward is the place where Abraham was going to sacrifice his son and the covenant with God was formed. I remember John Paul there praying, inserting his prayer—one of the things you do at the western wall is oftentimes you take a prayer and put it in one of the crevices of the wall as you say a prayer.

His feeling was so deep and rich. I can see him there praying in front of the western wall, I believe asking for forgiveness for the church for the history of antisemitism.

I have heard the essence of leadership described in this way: A leader maintains order in the midst of change and change in the midst of order. That was John Paul's outstanding gift. He held strongly to eternal values while he was a force for dynamic and even revolutionary change. He played a decisive role in the liberation of Eastern Europe and the fall of the Soviet Union. He has passed on within a few months of the other central figure in that historic change, Ronald Reagan. But Pope John Paul II did not wield military power. He was a man whose strength came from moral force and a conscience governed by peace.

Remarkably, he was able to lead with equal impact in the vigorous early days of his papacy and in the weakness of his latter years.

There has been so much that has been written and said about this Pope in the last few days that I believe has captured the essence of this great man. There is a piece I saw in Larry Kudlow's column. I would like to read from it:

John Paul II reached across all religious lines, becoming the most evangelical pope in recent memory. He was tireless as he spread his message of traditional religious faith and values to anyone who would listen—believers, nonbelievers, Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, Jews. This will surely be one of his most enduring legacies. You do not have to be Catholic to be grateful for the service John Paul II rendered to all mankind.

He did a tremendous service by the way he reached out to Israel and Jews around the world. His visits to Holocaust sites healed generations of misunderstanding and underscored the world's conviction that events such as this must never be allowed to happen again.

His constancy showed us how to live. His forgiveness showed us how to deal

with evil. His generosity showed us our obligation to the less fortunate. His faith showed us that we all live for purposes far beyond ourselves.

I was the mayor of St. Paul, MN, so I am happy to quote St. Paul's words to sum up the Holy Father's life:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

John Paul II was an ambassador of love, and his love will continue to bless the world. I said to my wife the other day: How blessed we are to have lived in his time.

John Paul the Great is no longer physically with us, but he has touched all our souls in extraordinary ways. We thank God to have known him.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORNYN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING POPE JOHN PAUL II

Mr. REID. Mr. President, a number of years ago, maybe 15 years ago, I had the opportunity to read a biography of Pope John Paul II. It was a big book given to me by a friend. I started reading it and I couldn't put it down. It read like a novel. He was a tremendously interesting, fascinating, wonderful human being I came to appreciate. I did not know much about the Pope, but after reading that book I tried to read everything I could about him.

The only personal situation I ever had involving the Pope was shortly after I read that book I traveled to Central America with a congressional delegation. This was during the time of the Iran contra conflict. One of the people we met was the Interior Minister of Nicaragua, a Communist. I met him. He was a pleasant man. He was a Catholic priest.

He talked about the fact he had been to Nevada. He was a relief priest. He would relieve priests in rural Nevada for their vacations. He talked about Battle Mountain where he had administered the last rites to a sheep herder. He was a very pleasant man. I learned later, however, about a story when the Pope had been through Nicaragua earlier. There was a long line of priests, as is traditional in the Catholic faith, that kiss the ring of the father, the Pope. When this man came by, the